DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 110 473 88 TM 004 744

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TITLE Project PRIMES (Progress Research in Meeting Elementary Standards) ESEA Title III Social Studies Evaluation Instrument.
INSTITUTION Columbus Public Schools, Ohio. Dept. of Evaluation, Research, and Planning.
SPONS AGENCY Bureau of Elementary and Secondary Education (DHEW/OE), Washington, D.C.
PUB DATE Aug 74
NOTE 12p.; For related documents, see TM 004 741, 742, 743 and 745

EDRS PRICE MF-$0.76 HC-$1.58 PLUS POSTAGE
DESCRIPTORS Curriculum Evaluation; Elementary Education; *Elementary Schools; Principals; *Questionnaires; *Social Studies; *State Standards; Teacher Background
IDENTIFIERS Elementary Secondary Education Act Title III; ESEA Title III; Ohio; *Project PRIMES

ABSTRACT

The Project PRIMES (Progress Research in Meeting Elementary Standards) system examines elementary schools in light of minimum standards set by the Ohio State Department of Education. This evaluation instrument is divided into five sections: (1) teacher strengths and weaknesses, (2) principal's strengths and weaknesses, (3) Instructional Components, (4) facilities, and (5) Citizenship. Questions pertain to elementary school social studies curriculum and instruction. (RC)

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PROJECT PRIMES

(Progress Research in Meeting Elementary Standards)

ESEA Title III

Social Studies Evaluation Instrument

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August, 1974

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TM 004 744

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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Instrument revised August, 1974

Section I - Teacher Strengths and Weaknesses

Teacher Training

1. Please indicate (by circling either yes or no) the college or inservice training courses which you have taken in the subject areas listed below.

Subject Area			Subject Area		
A. Anthropology	Yes	No	G. World Geography	Yes	No
B. American History	Yes	No	H. Ohio Geography	Yes	No
C. World History	Yes	No	I. United States Geography	Yes	No
D. Ohio History	Yes	No	J. Social Psychology	Yes	No
E. Economics	Yes	No	K. Political Science	Yes	No
F. Comparative Government	Yes	No	L. Sociology	Yes	No
			M. Black History	Yes	No

2. Have you taken a university methods course in teaching elementary school social studies? Yes No

3. Have you taken more than one such course? Yes No

4. How would you rate the training you received in college for teaching the social studies in the elementary school?

Excellent _____ Good _____ Fair _____ Poor _____

5. Do you feel that you need additional training in teaching social studies?

Yes No

6. If you answered yes to number 5, how would you go about getting this additional training?

1) A university course _____
2) A university workshop _____
3) A school workshop _____
4) Invite consultants outside of the school system to speak to you and interested staff. _____
5) Invite consultants within the school system to speak to you and interested staff. _____
6) Obtain materials and study independently. _____
7) Ask a colleague to work with you. _____
8) Other ways _____

Section II - Principal's Strengths and Weaknesses

1. In what ways do you help support your classroom teachers in attempts to improve social studies instruction?

Not Applicable	Never	Seldom	Frequently	Always		
C	1	2	3	4	A.	Help arrange field trips on social studies themes
0	1	2	3	4	B.	Help arrange resource speakers on social studies topics
0	1	2	3	4	C.	Order requested social studies materials when funds are available.
0	1	2	3	4	D.	Devote time in staff meetings to discuss current social studies curriculum trends
0	1	2	3	4	E.	Initiate curriculum changes or innovations in Social Studies
0	1	2	3	4	F.	Encourage teachers to experiment with curriculum innovations or changes in social studies instruction
0	1	2	3	4	G.	Invite central office personnel to speak to staff on various curriculum problems in the social studies
0	1	2	3	4	H.	Help establish building level goals and objectives for social studies instruction.
0	1	2	3	4	I.	Help organize media center with social studies area
0	1	2	3	4	J.	Maintain a file of possible field trips (social studies)
0	1	2	3	4	K.	Maintain a file of instructional materials for the social studies
0	1	2	3	4	L.	Attend workshops on social studies
0	1	2	3	4	M.	Report to parents and school community any attempts to improve social studies instruction
0	1	2	3	4	N.	Emphasize the importance to improve social studies instruction while minimizing the importance of attempts that failed

Section III - Instructional Components

Please indicate the grade level you teach:

Kindergarten _____	Fourth grade _____
First grade _____	Fifth grade _____
Second grade _____	Sixth grade _____
Third grade _____	Other, please specify _____

What is the name of the Textbook series you use?

_____

Copyright date _____

Please use this scale when responding to the next two items:

Never	=	do not use at all
Seldom	=	use 1-5 times during school year
Occasionally	=	use 6-15 times during school year
Frequently	=	use 16-20 times during school year
Regularly	=	use 21 or more times during school year

1. How often do you use the following audio-visual equipment in your social studies lessons?

How would you rate your school's supply

Adequate	Inadequate		Never	Seldom	Occasionally	Frequently	Regularly
___	___	A) Radio	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	B) Television	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	C) Tape Recorder	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	D) Listening Post	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	E) Film Strip Projector	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	F) Cassette Television	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	G) Slide Projector	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	H) Movie Projector	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	I) Overhead Projector	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	J) Opaque Projector	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	K) Record Player	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	L) Film Loop Projector	1	2	3	4	5

2. How often do you use the following materials in teaching your social stud s lessons?

How would you rate your school's supply

Adequate	Inadequate		Never	Seldom	Occasionally	Frequently	Regularly
___	___	A) Textbooks	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	B) Encyclopedias	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	C) Current Events Magazines	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	D) Atlases, Maps, Globes	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	E) Pictures, Charts, Posters	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	F) Curriculum Guide	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	G) Commercial Units of Study	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	H) Teacher-made Units of Study	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	I) Social Studies Gaming and Simulation Materials	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	J) Programmed Learning Materials	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	K) Diaries	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	L) Newspaper	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	M) Historical Documents	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	N) Cartoons	1	2	3	4	5
___	___	O) Realia or representations of realia	1	2	3	4	5

3. Approximately how many resource people speak to your class during an average year on social studies topics?

Check one

___ None
___ 1-3
___ 4-6
___ 7-9
___ 10 or more

4. Besides the school system's regularly scheduled field trips, how many additional trips do you schedule for your class that are relevant to the social studies?

Check one

___ None
___ 1
___ 2
___ 3
___ 4
___ 5 or more

5. Using the following scale, how much emphasis do you place on each of the following skills and activities in your social studies program?

(Please circle your response)

Skills and Activities	Degree of Emphasis					
	None	Low	Some	Average	Above Average	High
Locating Information	0	1	2	3	4	5
Textbook Reading	0	1	2	3	4	5
Use of Standard References	0	1	2	3	4	5
Use of Original Sources	0	1	2	3	4	5
Interpreting Maps and Globes	0	1	2	3	4	5
Making Observations	0	1	2	3	4	5
Organizing Information	0	1	2	3	4	5
Using Workbooks	0	1	2	3	4	5
Making Experience Charts	0	1	2	3	4	5
Making Simple Maps	0	1	2	3	4	5
Social Studies Projects	0	1	2	3	4	5
Evaluating Information	0	1	2	3	4	5
Debates	0	1	2	3	4	5
Small Group Discussions	0	1	2	3	4	5
Oral Reports	0	1	2	3	4	5
Mock Elections	0	1	2	3	4	5
Mock Trial	0	1	2	3	4	5
Group Problem-Solving	0	1	2	3	4	5
Individual Problem-Solving	0	1	2	3	4	5
Communicating in Writing	0	1	2	3	4	5
Written Reports	0	1	2	3	4	5
Constructing Tables and Charts	0	1	2	3	4	5

6. Does your school have a written set of goals and objectives for teaching social studies? Yes _____ No _____

7. How are children grouped in your class for instruction in the social studies?

___(a) Self-contained classroom
___(b) Interest groups (child chooses)
___(c) Child's reading level
___(d) Ungraded (child progresses at his own speed)
___(e) Departmentalized instruction
___(f) Other, please explain
_____
_____

8. How do you teach the social studies?

___(a) Teacher Teams
___(b) Lecture Method
___(c) Inquiry Method
___(d) Hilda Taba Method
___(e) Individualized
___(f) Textbook guidelines
___(g) Interdisciplinary Approach
___(h) History, Geography, etc. Taught as separate discipline
___(i) Activity or project method
___(j) Other, please explain
_____
_____

9. How frequently do you use each of the following assessment techniques in evaluating children's work in Social Studies?

Assessment Techniques	Frequency of Occurrence During Average School Year (Please Circle)
1. Quizzes	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 more
2. Textbook Tests	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 more
3. Teacher-made Tests (objective type)	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 more
4. Teacher-made Tests (subjective type)	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 more
5. Teacher-made Tests (combination subjective-objective)	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 more
6. Normed Tests, commercial-made	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 more
7. Behavioral objectives - percentage + of desired behavior achieved	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 more
8. Teacher-pupil interview	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 more
9. Teacher observation and/or Anecdotal records	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 more
10. Other. Please specify _____	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 more

10. Have you ever evaluated one of your social studies lessons by:

1. Taping (sound)	Yes ___	No ___
2. Video Taping!	Yes ___	No ___
3. Colleague observation	Yes ___	No ___
4. Principal observation	Yes ___	No ___
5. University Personnel observation	Yes ___	No ___
6. Central Office Administrator Observation	Yes ___	No ___
7. Feedback forms from children	Yes ___	No ___

11. Which of the above seven techniques do you feel has merit?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

Section IV - Facilities

1. Do you maintain an interest center or learning area within your classroom for activities or materials with social studies content?

Yes ___ No ___

2. Does your school have a learning center within which is an area set aside for social studies materials, films, cassettes, etc.?

Yes ___ No ___

3. Are carrels or small rooms within your building utilized for independent study?

Yes ___ No ___

4. How would you rate the space within your classroom for children to work on social studies projects and activities?

More than Adequate _____
Adequate _____
Inadequate _____

Section V - Citizenship

1. Does there exist an opening exercise program in your classroom?

   Yes ___ No ___ Sometimes ___

2. If yes, how often do each of the following activities take place?

	Times per week							
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	or more
a. Pledge of Allegiance	___	___	___	___	___	___	___	___
b. Patriotic Songs	___	___	___	___	___	___	___	___
c. Discussion of Famous Americans	___	___	___	___	___	___	___	___
d. Discussion of local, state, and national news	___	___	___	___	___	___	___	___

3. How often does your citizenship program emphasize the significance of national holidays?

Never	Seldom	Usually	Always
1	2	3	4

4. How does your school observe national holidays?

___a. Assemblies with special speaker(s).
___b. Intercom programs with children presenting.
___c. Assemblies with children presenting.
___d. Individual classroom observance.
___e. No formal school-wide observance.
___f. Other

5. Do children help in planning school-wide holiday programs?

Yes	No	Sometimes
1	2	3

6. How does your school recognize those school citizens who contribute or have given service for the good of others?

___a. Special School Assemblies
___b. Parent-Teacher Association Meetings
___c. Local newspaper article
___d. School newspaper article
___e. Special Certificates
___f. Party or picnic of some type
___g. No special recognition made
___h. Other

7. a. Does your school have a Student Council?

Yes ___ No ___

b. If yes, how are members chosen?

___a. School wide election
___b. Each class elects representative(s)
___c. Teacher selects representatives
___d. Principal selects representatives
___e. Volunteers only, no election
___f. Other

c. Does the student council function in the general planning and decision-making of your school?

Yes ___ No ___ To a limited degree ___

d. Are committees of children designated by your student council to assist the school in various ways?

Yes ___ No ___ Sometimes ___

TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS

In general, teachers would find certain weaknesses in his/her individual social studies program. Now that you have completed a self evaluation, what recommendations would you make?